

MT DISASTER & EMERGENCY PLAN

VOLUME I

EMERGENCY COORDINATION PLAN

Purpose: The Emergency Coordination Plan (ECP) is the main coordinating and policy document for the “Montana Disaster and Emergency Plan”. The plan provides for the coordinated response of state government to natural, technological or man-caused incidents, emergencies or disasters.

Scope: The state’s response may require the implementation of certain functional capabilities, an agency other than DES to assume the lead for specific incident responses or certain recovery implementation plans to be executed. The ECP establishes each state entity’s role and responsibility with regard to the various response areas. Section III of the plan, Responsibility Matrix, establishes a matrix outline, denotes lead and support agencies and defines each component. Section IV, Roles and Responsibilities, is comprised of ECP Uniform Policies and state entity annexes in alphabetical order identifying the respective roles and responsibilities.

Authorities: MCA – Title 10, Chapter 3.

United States Code (USC) – Title 42, Section 5121 *et seq*: The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief And Emergency Assistance Act, As Amended.

Assumptions:

- Montana will continue to experience natural, technological or man-caused incidents, emergencies or disasters requiring a state government response.
- All references in any plans are made with respect to incidents, emergencies or disasters.
- The state’s response may be required to assist local or tribal government, sister state agencies and other states.
- Incidents, emergencies or disasters will require varying levels of response. The development of plans identifying the state’s response will be based on the worst-case scenario. It is anticipated that the state’s response will be conducted at the lowest possible activation level to effectively and efficiently handle the situation.
- At times, the government elected officials, department directors or administrators will not be available to perform their duties. The lines of succession for elected officials will be according to the guidelines outlined in the Montana Constitution and the MCA. State department directors and administrators will identify the lines of succession for key positions in their respective agency.
- Army and Air National Guard assistance must be requested through DES.

- When an occurrence goes beyond the capability of local or tribal government, a request will be submitted for state assistance.
- The state's response during incidents, emergencies or disasters is based on the availability of state resources. If the response requirements go beyond state capabilities, federal assistance will be requested.
- All efforts will be made to coordinate with our sister agencies, local, tribal, federal, private, volunteer, neighboring state or Canadian entities to effectively manage the consequences of any incident, emergency or disaster.
- When the "Montana Disaster and Emergency Plan" is activated, all or parts of the plan may be implemented.
- The DES Administrator will be the State Coordinating Officer (SCO) responsible for coordinating the state's response, unless otherwise designated by the Governor.

Activation: The "Montana Disaster and Emergency Plan" is in effect at such time as:

- An incident, emergency or disaster occurs or is imminent;
- The SCO requests appropriate state agencies to respond to an incident, emergency or disaster;
- An incident, emergency or disaster is declared by the Governor or
- A Presidential or federal agency declaration or designation is issued.

Maintenance: DES will coordinate the annual review of the ECP and update the document accordingly.